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FIRE FACT NO. 021 CHECKLIST(s) : 99

TITLE : ROLLING OVERHEAD FIRE DOORS ACROSS EXIT CORRIDORS

CHECKLIST ITEM(s) : 99-35

REFERENCE(s) : 91-101/31-1.2

PAGE 1 of 1

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# FACT 021 ROLLING FIRE DOORS

Rolling overhead fire doors have been used by architects in buildings to provide separation from one addition to another, or to separate buildings. These doors can cause severe exiting and life safety problems when released. These roll-down doors are extremely heavy and are typically unstoppable once activated. Currently, rolling fire doors pose a greater life safety threat than any fire safety benefit because of their potential injury to occupants and the creation of unexpected dead-end corridors which will trap unsuspecting occupants.

Each building owner should consult with their insurance carrier or local building or fire authority to see whether or not fire separation is required by the rolling fire door across exit corridors.

If a fire-rated door is not required at a location, secure or remove the overhead rolling door.

If a fire-rated door is required, to prevent operation secure or remove completely the existing overhead rolling doors and replace them with properly rated swinging doors. If the overhead doors cannot be immediately eliminated, the rolling doors shall be checked to insure they are being maintained properly while plans to replace them progress.

